

## THE COMET.

N. C. T. LOVE, Publisher.  
ROBERT J. TAYLOR,  
ROBERT HURROW, Editors.

Johnson City, Tenn., May 10, 1884.

### APPLES OF GOLD IN PICTURES OF SILVER.

FOR PRESIDENT:  
**SAMUEL J. TILDEN,**  
OF NEW YORK.  
FOR VICE PRESIDENT:  
**THOMAS A. HENDRICKS,**  
OF INDIANA.  
FOR GOVERNOR:  
**WM. H. BATE,**  
OF DAVIDSON.

Ex Gov. Mathews, of West Va., is dead.

The Bankrupt bill has passed the Senate.

Let the straddlers and scratchers take back seats.

War taxes in time of peace is an abomination to any people.

Down with war taxes, is the war slogan of an awakened Democracy.

The New York Times, Republican, says that Hurd made a great speech.

The loudest cry for tariff reform comes from Massachusetts—and from both parties, too.

The New York Sun calls Frank Hurd a crank. Would that the land were filled with such.

Conkling prefers Blaine to Arthur and suggests that the Democrats can win by nominating Grant.—Nashville World.

The Democratic party will triumph in 1884 in spite of Randall and all the powers of darkness.

Each Congressional district is entitled to two delegates to the Chicago Democratic Convention. Send men who are determined to crush out war taxes in time of peace.

Hon. O. C. King, of Morristown, one of the best talkers in the State, and a sound Democrat, positive in his opinions and bold to express them, will probably be the democratic nominee for Congress in the first district of Tennessee this fall of polls.

The Morrison Tariff Bill fell dead last Tuesday, at the hands of hypocrisy, and monopoly chuckles, while war tariff still glooms on the sweat and blood of the poor. But the people will not always sleep. Their waking will be followed by a revolution which will smite the monster unto death and sweep his minions from the face of the earth.

The editor of the Bristol News, who was once a Democrat, has changed colors and is now an ultra-Republican. One of his excuses is that he is opposed to "a tariff for revenue only." It is remarkable that Mr. Fowler did not make this discovery twenty years ago. He has supported every Democratic Presidential candidate during these years and a platform containing this obnoxious plank. His other reason is that he is pleased with Arthur's administration. That might do for an excuse for being for Arthur for re-election but it cannot explain satisfactory to his tumbling soul and body into the Republican party and pledging his support to its nominee, be he Arthur, or be Logan or Sherman, or any other of the bitter and unscrupulous partisans who have persecuted the South. No we cannot endorse Macdonald's Richmond platform. Our objections to it and the Republican party are legion and we must decline his invitation to "fine." If the reasons given are satisfactory to Mr. Fowler, we are content but he has not entirely disabused our mind of the idea that he and his party in Virginia "are for Arthur because Arthur is for us."

Alluding to a falsehood recently published in the Knoxville Tribune about "family coalitions" in the First district of Tennessee, the Morristown Gazette thus scolds one of the Editors of THE COMET.

Aha! Notwithstanding his spangle-like trucking to Bateman, it does not restrain the little Bateman's penitentiary ring organs from "wounding the spirit that loves them" whenever they can forge a cruel paragraph at the expense of the Democratic Taylor boy of this district.

Now, uncle John, don't please hush! That "cruel paragraph" didn't "wound the spirit" it was aimed at us to assure you. If it was anything at all, it was a boomerang. We were not seeking golden opinions from the Knoxville Tribune nor were we guilty of "spangle-like trucking" when we hoisted the name of Bate for Governor. We have much better cause to cry him down than you have to cry him down. He preached the gospel of purity and truth and justice in '82 and snatched the State from the grip of radicalism. His administration has been honest, and satisfactory to the people and therefore deserves their endorsement, he is a democrat, worthy, and well qualified to lead the Democratic hosts in battle, and this is why THE COMET cries let the Plumed Knight shiver lanes with the foe in 1884. Uncle John, fall into line while it is called to-day before the night comes.

The consolidation of the Congressional executive committee, and the State ex executive committees into one or rather the abolition of the Congressional committees, and the transfer of all their powers to the State committees, we believe would be unwise, and therefore we object.

The Morrison Tariff Bill has been defeated by a final vote of 159 to a 154. Forty two democrats, lead by Randal of Pennsylvania and Converse of Ohio are its assassins. It is a victory for protection and the republican party. How long will the democracy of the Nation be controlled and defeated by a handful of Ohio and Pennsylvania politicians whose tenure of office depends alone upon their loyalty to republican principles? How long, oh Lord, how long!

The directors of the O. Tenn. & N. C. Ry Co., met in their office in this city, Monday night, all present but Col. S. H. Yocum. Col Thos. E. Matson was elected temporary chairman, and E. C. Reeves temporary secretary. The charter of incorporation recently granted by the State, was accepted, and an organization effected by the election of H. H. Carr president of the board of directors, and A. B. Bowman secretary and treasurer. Col. Matson, E. C. Reeves and J. C. Hardin were appointed a committee to form for, and report to the next meeting, by-laws for the corporation. The preliminary survey will be commenced soon, and other steps looking to "business" will soon be taken.

The Union is ringing with praises of the great speech of the Hon. Frank H. Hurd. The Chicago Hearald says:

Mr Hurd's magnificent speech, making dry sticks bloom with roses, has raised the tariff question from demagoguery into literature. His lucidity has made the most abstruse question clear to the simplest understanding. His power has shattered the fallacies and bugbears of so called protection. If he had given to the country no other burning truth than Why we pay war taxes twenty-five years after the war? he would have set the whole country thinking.—Nashville World.

Let the enemies of the Democratic party fully make up their minds that its purpose is to relieve the people of unnecessary taxation. Those time-servers, who suppose that the defeat of Mr. Morrison's bill will operate to deter Democrats with settled convictions, from pressing the spirit of reform are reckoning without their host. The cankerous system of protection, which is impoverishing nineteen-twentieths of our people, in order that the remaining twentieth may float along in flowery beds of ease, has now to meet the attack of the people. The Morrison bill was but the skirmish line. The people will not be made the slaves of protected oligarchs. Nashville World.

Let the people understand the issue. The only excuse for taxation is public revenue. The Government has no right to tax one man for another's benefit. Every tax is an evil and is on the defensive. Its need must be shown, and no tax can be defended which is not levied for the maintenance of public peace, order and security. The indiscriminate pensioning of a few rich men and corporations, by conveying to them the prerogative of taxing their fellow-men for private benefits, is an evil which when the people fully understand, will not be tolerated. The high protectionist features of our tariff—a relic of heathenism must go. The revenue reform spirit is a broad in the land, and the defeat of Mr. Morrison's bill will only intensify its earnestness. Fall in.—Nashville World.

### Candidates and Platforms.

The majority of the voters of the United States believe that the Republican party ought to be turned out of power. The important question is whether this majority can be brought this year to act together for this purpose on one platform and under one Presidential candidate.

The candidate is the indispensable factor in the problem. He must be adapted to the peculiar circumstances of the case. He must fill the bill. On the other hand, a bad platform will be only a hindrance to success.

It is better for a party to have none than to go into a contest with one that will engender discord and lead to defeat. On the two occasions when the old Whig party carried the Presidential election, their National Conventions adopted no platform at all.

### Farmers Convention.

Call of the Farmers Convention at Jonesboro Tennessee by the President, Dr. A. S. Dobson, May 5th for the purpose of electing delegates to the Farmers Convention which meets at Knoxville May 20 and 21st 1884. On motion Dr. A. S. N. Dobson was elected permanent chairman and J. A. Worley secretary. Moved and passed that a committee of three be appointed to select delegates from each district. Said committee are J. E. T. Harris, W. H. Taylor and T. M. Wells. Moved and seconded that the papers of the county be requested to publish the proceedings of the convention.

A. S. N. Dobson,  
Chairman

J. A. Worley,  
Secretary.

The Committee reported the following named delegates to wit: 1st District, Jacob Copp and W. P. Smith; 2nd Dist., Dr. Wm. Smith and J. A. West; 3rd Dist., John Bolton and John Keedle; 4th Dist., Henry Hoss and Geo. Swingle; 5th Dist., E. H. West and Skelton Taylor; 6th Dist., Nathan Gammon and Andrew Broyles; 7th Dist., T. M. Wells and Jas. Hays; 8th Dist., Thos. J. Peoples and J. E. T. Harris; 9th Dist., Richard Carr and John Boring; 10th, Montgomery Stout and J. M. Range; 11th Dist., W. B. Bowman and A. C. Bowers; 22nd Dist., S. B. Ellis and Chas. Hale; 13th Dist., Enos Kincheloe and J. P. Duncan; 14th Dist., S. P. Martin and U. H. Squibb; 15th Dist., E. A. Shipley and Geo. Allison; 16th Dist., N. A. Farnsworth and Sam'l Crookshanks; 17th Dist., J. M. Morrow and Lewis Cooper; County at large, Dr. A. S. N. Dobson, W. H. Taylor, Dr. Kitzmiller and T. J. Wilson.

Report adopted.

### HIGH TARIFF.

EDS. OF THE COMET:—"Revenue Only" says in his last communication, that I would not have American laborers compete with English pauper labor though three thousand miles away, but would bring them home to us. He is correct. I would not have our working men reduced to the necessity of working for the low wages at which the poor men work in England. Let the men and women of that country come to our shores, let them bring their muscles and brains, and they will not long be paupers, but useful citizens, swelling our population and making a market at home for the three hundred and thirty million dollars worth of provisions which Revenue Only says was exported in 1879 from the United States. We will thus save the transportation of our surplus three thousand miles across the ocean. Our farmers will put into their pockets the amount necessary to transport their provisions to a foreign country, and will have a more certain market. Revenue Only is afraid this army of laborers will glut the markets with cheap products. He is correct in that, manufactured goods would become cheaper, that is the result of assured and continued protection. A protection tariff is intended to build up all our people.

Revenue Only says very earnestly, "I do insist that protection benefits the manufacturer alone," but in the same article admits in substance that the tariff at Johnson City is a blessing to all the people. Again we are told that protection, or to use his very chaste and elegant language the "divine tariff" is the worst enemy of the manufacturer, because there is a tariff on beef hides. He would have hides imported from South America free of duty, when he says "thousands of wild cattle are killed for the hides alone." Yet he wants the farmer protected, but is willing to break down the farmer to build up something that he says is alone benefitted by protection. This may be consistency.

Yes we have had protection for twenty years and the result is manufactures have increased, that we have had a period of unprecedented prosperity, notwithstanding we emerged from a destructive and prostrating war about that long ago. We see even in our own country, cotton, woolen, leather and iron manufactures springing up, blessing not only the manufacturer but also the farmer, the laborer, the merchant, the State and society generally, and had not the fear that English money would be able to corrupt a sufficient number of our National legislators to change our law and bring about free trade, hundreds of manufactures would be blessing our South-land where only tens shed their blessings.

If past history is worth anything we should shun free trade as we would a pestilence. The periods of protection have been periods of prosperity. Free trade has brought with it bankruptcy, poverty and financial ruin as anyone can verify by referring to the history of this country.

Why is it that England floods our country with free trade pamphlets? Is it because she loves our people or our money more? It is no wonder that the protective policy is denounced as a "thieving policy." Such epithets have their origin either in British gold or British throats. No man who is unprejudiced can contemplate the contrast between the laborers of this country and England and come to any other conclusion. But Revenue Only says the manufacturer alone is benefitted by protection. This is the argument of the free trade party. Nothing shows more conclusively the fallacy of this argument than the opinions of intelligent men who have contrasted the conditions of the working men in England and the United States. I quote from a recent number of The Youth's Companion, a paper that eschews politics.

"An English statesman who visited this country lately spent a fortnight in Philadelphia. One day his hostess accidentally drove him through the district of Kensington, where hundreds of small, clean streets are webbed together, lined with small, comfortable dwellings. 'Who lives here?' he said. 'The workmen in these great mills' was the reply. 'Every house has its gas, its heating furnace and its bath-room.'"

"Only think of it!" he exclaimed, a dozen times that day. "A city with two hundred thousand private bathing establishments!" The institutions of the country, its extent, its great riches and mountains, the enormous fortunes of the wealthy class, did not interest him. It was the little comfortable house for the working men, where he could be private, respectable, and, above all, clean, that appeared to him the supreme triumph of the Republic.

Last Summer, an English member of Parliament, with his wife, visited the same quarter. The object which attracted most notice from them was the ubiquitous baby-carriage, in which the child of the laborer lay at his ease, under a silk canopy while his mother pushed him along.

"These men at home," said the Englishman, "would live in huts or cellars, worse than a dog's kennel. But here their children ride in miniature chariots. Such a sight was never seen in Europe."

All the talk of all the free traders in the world about a "thieving tariff" will not convince the laboring men that it is best for him to take his children and his wife into a cellar or hut worse than a dog's kennel. The inevitable result of free trade is to consign the working man and his children to ignorance and beggary. It is not strange that Englishmen should want to see our manufacturers broken down, for they, then become our manufacturers and sell to us at their own price, which would make the rich richer and possibly help their poor, but at the cost of our people. Shame on the American who will lend England a helping hand to oppress the poor laboring man of our own country.

### PROTECTION.

### LOW TARIFF.

EDITORS OF THE COMET:—"Protection" admits that he would bring the English paupers to this country and let them compete with the working men here. Where then is the good sense in objecting to these same paupers competing with us when three thousand miles away? Some of our manufacturing enterprises are already standing idle on account of over production and an over stocked market. Without a foreign market, with our manufacturing facilities increased by the influx of what he terms English pauper labor, with the home market overstocked and the surplus of manufactured goods augmenting daily, what could be expected but a ruinous reduction in the wages of laborers, suspension of factories, panics and riots. This would be the result if "Protection" idea was carried out, and he partially admits the fact by saying that the army of laborers would glut the market and cheapen manufactured goods. Of course if the price of manufactured articles be reduced, the manufacturer, who cannot survive without National aid and National protection, could not continue to pay the same wages as when his goods sold higher, and the result must necessarily be a reduction of wages in proportion to the reduction in the price of the goods manufactured.

"Protection" would have our country protected from all foreign imports, and would have a home market for the products of our soil. He would not allow anything to come in or permit anything to go out. He would build a Chinese wall around the United States and set an embargo on the commerce of the world. In the language of Frank Hurd, "God speed the day when the divine thought of man's brotherhood with man shall supersede the degrading and belittling of one national isolation and foreign exclusion."

"Protection" is very much mistaken when he says I want the farmer protected. I am not in favor of the Government giving assistance to a business or any enterprise, but if the manufacturer is to be protected the farmer ought to be also. We deny the right of the Government to build up one man at the expense of another.

He changes his opinion about our people growing poorer and poorer every year and now argues that we have had an era of protection and prosperity for twenty years. He thinks the fear of English money corrupting our national legislature has prevented the erection of hundreds of manufactures. I feel very little like discussing a question with a man who makes statements like that without the slightest foundation or excuse. It needs no further argument to show its fallacy than to say the corrupt party that has controlled Congress for twenty years, would have long since yielded to so potent an influence. He says free trade has brought poverty, financial ruin upon the country in times past and that it is to be shunned as a pestilence. When in the history of our country have we had free trade? America has always had protection. The history of England will show that instead of being periods of prosperity, the periods of protection have been the opposite. In 1844 the manufacturing enterprises of that country were in a state of stagnation, brought about by a system of protection. They were unable to dispose of their surplus abroad. The larger establishments were closed. The poor homes were full and thousands were turned out to starve. Then it was the agitation of free trade began, and in 1846 they succeeded and the most objectionable features of protection were repealed. What was the result to English manufacturers? The increase in business

was miraculous. From \$800,000,000 worth a year the total exportation of English manufactured goods has reached \$1,500,000,000 worth a year, and to-day England supplies every nation under the sun with goods of her own manufacture. If the repeal of the tariff laws brought such results to England, why should not the abolition of our tariff laws bring similar results here? Our manufacturers are now, as was England's in 1844, laboring under a state of over production. Last year England sold to the nations of the earth twenty-one times more manufactured goods than the great continent of America. That is the result of free trade. I cannot take space to answer his little piece from the "Youth's Companion," an Indian story paper for boys, further than to say that England's laborers live just as respectable and clean as those of other countries, and can have just as many baby carriages too. "Protection" ought to argue the question from a standpoint of history and reason, and not allow his better judgment to be controlled by the extravagant statement of one man about "dog kennels" and "cellars."

We assert that a protective tariff will reduce the wages of laborers. Take the tannery at Johnson City for instance. The tariff makes high priced beef hides. The higher the price of the raw material used the lower the wages that can be paid employees. High priced materials has compelled a reduction of the wages of labor in manufacturing industries in this country; the high tariff is responsible for the high price of material and is therefore responsible for the reduction of wages.

After all the question is simply this: Ought the forty-seven millions of people not engaged in manufacturing pursuits, in this country, be made to pay to the three millions who are so engaged, 43 per cent, on an average, more than they could buy the same articles for from foreign manufacturers? We say no, and "Protection" cannot shame us from our position.

### REVENUE ONLY.

### Charlie Ford Dead.

ST. LOUIS, May 6.—Charlie Ford committed suicide this morning at Richmond, Mo. He was suffering from consumption and had been taking morphine for a long time to allay the pain of another disease. News of his death was received with joy in St. Joseph, many of whose people sympathize with the Jameses and cannot be brought to excuse Jesse's assassinations. The house in which this occurred is now occupied by its owner, Mrs. Salzman, who was forced to take up her residence there to protect it from relic-hunters. Acting upon the suggestion of a friend a register was provided and an admission fee was charged. The old lady has received in gate fees alone \$1,500 and fully as much more from the sale of relics. Her daughter, a pretty girl of fourteen points out the several positions occupied by the chief actors in the tragedy, with the request that you register your name.

This list is remarkable. It includes the names of statesmen, actors, editors, artists, capitalists, professors and divines. Among them are those of Jay Gould, Talmage, Emma Abbott, Fanny Davenport, John McCullough, Fred Warde, Col. Burleigh, Rev. Milne, Anna Dickinson, Robson and Crane, Mary Anderson, Maggie Mitchell, Joe Murphy, Governor Crittenden, Senators Cockrell and Vest. Impenitently increased the weight of Charlie Ford's despondency. When he and his brother first started out for their dramatic rehearsal of "The James Assassins" they drew splendidly and made lots of money, which they spent freely in all kinds of dissipation. They were advised by theatrical people to be careful of their money, as their show could not hope to retain its popularity. But they insisted that their play, "The Brother's Vow; or, the Bandit's Revenge," was good for a fifty years' run and continued their career of dissipation. Last January their dramatic career came to an end in this city after a very poor engagement and since then they have been financially broken. They have been trying hard of late to secure engagements, but no one would have anything to do with them and it was in despair that Charley ended his days.

### Road Question.

In the year '81 the road leading from Cherokee to Johnson City beginning just below the old Mitchell farm was changed from a good location down the flat that is not fit for a public road, and was hacked out around and among saplings, mudholes and steep banks, and in '83, was neglected entirely, not even provided with over-seer or hands, and at this date, May 6th '84, has become almost impassable, and there is not one single rod of this road that fills the specifications of either the old or new law. I am compelled to call attention to the fact that there must be a remedy, or the law resorted to, and it does seem that the County Court is first in fault. I would like to know whether any of the members of the Court have passed over this road since last location, if so please give your decision and oblige.

THOMAS SCOTT.

A man may forget home, kindred, friends, and almost everything else, but he never forgets the first time he went to a barber's shop to get shaved.

Blanche Roosevelt's novel, "Stage-struck," has been published in London.

W. W. Corcoran has subscribed \$5,000 toward the Confederate Home in Richmond.

Ex-Comptroller John Jay Knox was the guest of the Boston bank presidents at their annual banquet.

Frank James, of fame as a bandit, is a lion at Booneville, Mo., being the guest of "one of the most respected citizens" there.

The late Mr. Maxwell, the millionaire brewer, of Milwaukee, left \$700,000 to be used to pay for experiments in aerial navigation.

Marie Booth's suit against Agnes Booth to recover part of the property left by Julius Brutus Booth, the plaintiff's father, has been compromised in Boston. The terms have not been made public.

George F. Slosson and Jacob Schaefer, the billiard experts, are about to engage in a battle of the cues for the ball-line championship. Schaefer now holds the emblem. The play will occur in Chicago on Monday night.

Charles A. Dana has returned from a trip to Mexico. He says that it is a wretched country and corruptly governed. Its present President went into office a poor man, and is now worth \$10,000,000. All things are vernal there, and the better class want annexation to this country in order to have a government of law and order.

William Preston Johnston is reported by the Rev. Henry M. Field to have said recently, Shiloh being the subject of the conversation: "When my father was shot and fell from his horse he had gained a great victory; and if he had not been killed at that critical moment, in two hours more he would have captured General Grant and his whole army."

Jefferson Davis recently said to a Northern visitor that General Grant was a great military commander, but that Meade was the most skillful General in the Union army. Sherman was looked upon in the South as Alaric was by the Romans. He was cruel, yet a great strategist. McClellan was the best trained soldier in the war.

Truman Smith, of Stamford, Conn., the oldest ex-United States Senator, died on Saturday, at the advanced age of ninety-four years. He entered Congress in 1839, where he continued four terms and he was elected to the Senate in 1850. He was one of the leading factors in the nomination of General Taylor for President in 1848, and was then, next to John M. Clayton, the most potential Whig leader of the country.

## PHOTOGRAPHS

(—BY—)

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